



JOURNAL

JOURNAL OF THE CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

VOLUME 4 ♦ 2003

ISSUES FACING FAMILY COURTS

DISESTABLISHMENT SUITS: WHAT HATH SCIENCE WROUGHT?

Mary R. Anderlik

PARENTS WITH DISABILITIES: PROBLEMS IN FAMILY COURT PRACTICE

Megan Kirshbaum, Daniel O. Taube & Rosalinda Lasian Baer

EFFECTIVE INTERVENTION WITH HIGH-CONFLICT FAMILIES: HOW JUDGES CAN PROMOTE AND RECOGNIZE COMPETENT TREATMENT IN FAMILY COURT

*Lyn R. Greenberg, Jonathan W. Gould, Hon. Robert Alan Schnider, Dianna J. Gould-Saltman &
David A. Martindale*

THE INVISIBLE HAVOC OF PRENATAL ALCOHOL DAMAGE

Kathryn Page

THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY JUVENILE DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE COURT

Inger Sagatun-Edwards, Hon. Eugene M. Hyman, Tracy Lafontaine & Erin Nelson-Serrano

THE SCOPE OF FAMILY COURT INTERVENTION

Steve Baron

ISSUES FORUM

PROMOTING PERMANENCY: FAMILY GROUP CONFERENCING AT THE MANHATTAN FAMILY TREATMENT COURT

Robert Victor Wolf

EXPECTED CONTROVERSIES: LEGACIES OF DIVORCE

Mary A. Duryee

PERSPECTIVES

DON'T GO TO COURT, EVERYBODY SAID

Russell Fuller

TEN YEARS IN FAMILY LAW COURT

Pamela Besser Theroux



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA ♦ ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS



JOURNAL

JOURNAL OF THE CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

VOLUME 4 ♦ 2003



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA ♦ ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS



The *Journal of the Center for Families, Children & the Courts* welcomes submissions addressing contemporary issues in family and juvenile law, the administration of family and juvenile courts, and the provision of court-connected services to children and families. The journal seeks to foster dialogue among various practical and academic disciplines, and so invites contributions from the fields of law, court administration, medicine and clinical psychology, the behavioral and social sciences, and other disciplines concerned with the welfare of children and families.

Manuscripts submitted for publication should be sent to Corby Sturges, Editor in Chief, *Journal of the Center for Families, Children & the Courts*, Judicial Council of California, 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Sixth Floor, San Francisco, CA 94102-3688, corby.sturges@jud.ca.gov. A manuscript—including endnotes, tables, and figures—should not exceed 30 double-spaced typed pages. Authors should follow the style guidelines of *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* (17th ed.), published and distributed by the *Harvard Law Review*, when preparing their manuscripts. Authors should send one copy of the manuscript along with a 100-word abstract and a biographical sketch. Authors may submit their manuscripts electronically, in Microsoft® Word 97 or later, to the e-mail address above.

The *Journal of the Center for Families, Children & the Courts* (ISSN 1532-0685), formerly the *Journal of the Center for Children and the Courts* (ISSN 1526-4904), is published annually by the Judicial Council of California. The journal is published free of charge with the generous support of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The views expressed are those of the authors and may not represent the view of the journal, the Judicial Council of California, or the funder.

All rights reserved. Except as permitted under the Copyright Act of 1976, no part of this journal may be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including the use of information storage and retrieval systems, without permission in writing from the copyright owner. Permission is hereby granted to reprint quotations from this work up to 500 words in length provided that such quotations are not altered or edited in any way and provided that an appropriate credit line and copyright notice are given. Permission is also granted to nonprofit institutions to reproduce and distribute for educational purposes all or part of the work if the copies are distributed at or below cost and identify the author, the journal, the volume, the number of the first page, and the year of the work's publication.

Copyright © 2003 by Center for Families, Children & the Courts; all articles © 2003 by the authors. This issue should be cited as 4 J. CENTER FOR FAM. CHILD. & CTS. __ (2003).

To be placed on the subscription list, contact:
Journal of the Center for Families, Children & the Courts
Judicial Council of California
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Sixth Floor
San Francisco, California 94102-3688
415-865-7739
fax: 415-865-7217
e-mail: cfcc@jud.ca.gov

The journal is also available on the California Courts Web site:
<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc/resources/publications/journal/>

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

CHIEF JUSTICE RONALD M. GEORGE

Chair, Judicial Council of California

WILLIAM C. VICKREY

*Administrative Director
of the Courts*

MICHAEL BERGEISEN

*General Counsel and
Deputy Administrative Director*

DIANE NUNN

*Director, Center for Families,
Children & the Courts*

JOURNAL OF THE CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

EDITORIAL STAFF



CORBY STURGES

Editor in Chief

AUDREY EVJE

Managing Editor

FRAN HASELSTEINER

Senior Editor

SUZANNE BEAN

Art Director

CHRISTINE MIKLAS

Proofreader

Article Editors

IONA MARA-DRITA

JULIA WEBER

CHRISTOPHER WU

ELAINE HOLLAND
Graphic Design & Production

EDITORIAL REVIEW BOARD

MS. ROBIN ALLEN

California CASA Association

MR. JAMES BELL

*W. Haywood Burns Institute for Juvenile Justice
Fairness and Equity*

DR. JILL DUERR BERRICK

*University of California at Berkeley
School of Social Welfare*

DR. DONALD C. BROSS

*C. Henry Kempe National Center for the
Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse
and Neglect*

HON. LEONARD P. EDWARDS

*Superior Court of California,
County of Santa Clara*

MS. MARGARET CAMPBELL HAYNES

Tier Technologies

MR. HUNTER HURST III

National Center for Juvenile Justice

DR. JOAN KELLY

Northern California Mediation Center

HON. EDWARD PANELLI (Ret.)

Supreme Court of California

HON. ARTHUR G. SCOTLAND

California Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District

MR. LARRY SIPES (Ret.)

National Center for State Courts

MR. RUSSELL VAN VLEET

University of Utah Graduate School of Social Work

PROF. MICHAEL WALD

Stanford Law School

HON. LYNN WOOLSEY

U.S. House of Representatives

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

HON. RONALD M. GEORGE

Chief Justice of California and Chair of the Judicial Council

HON. MARVIN R. BAXTER

Associate Justice of the Supreme Court

HON. ELLEN M. CORBETT

Member of the Assembly

HON. ERIC L. DU TEMPLE

*Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Tuolumne*

HON. NORMAN L. EPSTEIN

*Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal,
Second Appellate District, Division Four*

HON. MARTHA M. ESCUTIA

Member of the Senate

HON. MICHAEL T. GARCIA

*Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Sacramento*

HON. WILLIAM C. HARRISON

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Solano*

MR. REX S. HEINKE

Attorney at Law, Los Angeles

HON. RICHARD D. HUFFMAN

*Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal,
Fourth Appellate District, Division One*

HON. LAURENCE DONALD KAY

*Presiding Justice of the Court of Appeal,
First Appellate District, Division Four*

HON. JACK KOMAR

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Santa Clara*

HON. WILLIAM A. MACLAUGHLIN

*Assistant Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Los Angeles*

HON. HEATHER D. MORSE

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Santa Cruz*

HON. WILLIAM J. MURRAY, JR.

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of San Joaquin*

HON. MICHAEL NASH

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Los Angeles*

MR. DAVID J. PASTERNAK

Attorney at Law, Los Angeles

MS. ANN MILLER RAVEL

County Counsel, County of Santa Clara

HON. RICHARD STRAUSS

*Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of San Diego*

MR. THOMAS JOSEPH WARWICK, JR.

Attorney at Law, San Diego

HON. BARBARA ANN ZÚÑIGA

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Contra Costa*

ADVISORY MEMBERS

HON. FREDERICK PAUL HORN

*Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Orange*

MS. TRESSA S. KENTNER

*Executive Officer, Superior Court of California,
County of San Bernardino*

MS. SUSAN NULL

*Executive Officer, Superior Court of California,
County of Shasta*

HON. GREGORY C. O'BRIEN, JR.

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Los Angeles*

MR. ALAN SLATER

*Chief Executive Officer, Superior Court of California,
County of Orange*

HON. PATRICIA H. WONG

*Commissioner of the Superior Court of California,
County of Sacramento*

MR. WILLIAM C. VICKREY

*Administrative Director of the Courts and
Secretary of the Judicial Council*

FAMILY AND JUVENILE LAW ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HON. MARY ANN GRILLI, CO-CHAIR

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Santa Clara*

HON. SUSAN D. HUGUENOR, CO-CHAIR

Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego

HON. SUE ALEXANDER

*Commissioner of the Superior Court of California,
County of Alameda*

MR. STEVEN L. BAUTISTA

Chief Probation Officer, Contra Costa County

HON. AVIVA K. BOBB

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Los Angeles*

MS. JUDY LYNN BOGEN

Attorney at Law, Beverly Hills

HON. JERILYN L. BORACK

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Sacramento*

HON. JEFFREY BOSTWICK

Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego

HON. CHARLES W. CAMPBELL, JR.

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Ventura*

HON. NORMA CASTELLANOS PEREZ

*Commissioner of the Superior Court of California,
County of Tulare*

MS. PATRICIA CHAVEZ-FALLON

*Director, Family Court Services,
Superior Court of California, County of San Diego*

MR. L. MICHAEL CLARK

*Lead Deputy County Counsel, Office of the County Counsel,
County of Santa Clara*

HON. BECKY DUGAN

Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Riverside

HON. LEONARD P. EDWARDS

*Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Santa Clara*

MS. ANA ESPAÑA

*Supervising Attorney, Office of the Public Defender,
Dependency Section, County of San Diego*

MS. POLLY FRANSON

*Executive Director, Court Appointed Special Advocates
(CASA) of Fresno County*

MS. KERI GRIFFITH

*Court Program Manager, Superior Court of California,
County of Ventura*

MS. SHARON KALEMKIARIAN

Attorney at Law, San Diego

HON. JO KAPLAN

*Attorney/As-Needed Referee, Juvenile Court,
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles*

MS. MIRIAM ARONI KRINSKY

Executive Director, Children's Law Center of Los Angeles

MR. KURT KUMLI

*Supervising Deputy District Attorney,
Office of the District Attorney, County of Santa Clara*

HON. JAMES M. MIZE

Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento

MR. LEE D. MORHAR

*Chief Counsel, Office of Legal Services,
California Department of Child Support Services*

HON. ARNOLD D. ROSENFELD

Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Sonoma

HON. FRANCES ROTHSCHILD

Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

MR. DAVID SANDERS

*Director, Department of Children and Family Services,
County of Los Angeles*

HON. B. TAM NOMOTO SCHUMANN

Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Orange

HON. DEAN THOMAS STOUT

*Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Inyo*

MS. DIANE WASZNICKY

Attorney at Law, Sacramento

MR. DALE WELLS

*Family Law Facilitator, Superior Court of California,
County of Riverside*

MS. SHANNAN L. WILBER

Executive Director, Legal Services for Children, San Francisco

MS. JANE WINER

*Senior Judicial Attorney, Court of Appeal,
Second Appellate District*

MS. KATE YAVENDITTI

Senior Staff Attorney, San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program

MISSION STATEMENT

The *Journal of the Center for Families, Children & the Courts* is a periodical dedicated to publishing a full spectrum of viewpoints on issues regarding children, families, and the interplay between these parties and the courts. Focusing on issues of national importance, the journal encourages a dialogue for improving judicial policy in California.

Contents

X Editor's Note

xii Contributors

ISSUES FACING FAMILY COURTS

3 Disestablishment Suits: What Hath Science Wrought?

Mary R. Anderlik

Anderlik discusses the trend toward using DNA testing to disprove paternity and its consequences for parent-child relationships. After canvassing a variety of legal responses to this trend, she reviews important issues yet to be resolved.

27 Parents With Disabilities:
Problems in Family Court Practice

Megan Kirshbaum, Daniel O. Taube & Rosalinda Lasian Baer

After describing the statutory, judicial, and professional barriers to family court access confronting parents with disabilities, the authors recommend strategies for lowering those barriers.

49 Effective Intervention With High-Conflict Families: How Judges Can
Promote and Recognize Competent Treatment in Family Court

*Lyn R. Greenberg, Jonathan W. Gould, Hon. Robert Alan Schnider,
Dianna J. Gould-Saltman & David A. Martindale*

The authors explore the proper role of mental health professionals providing treatment of children and families involved in custody and visitation cases and offer a framework for judicial officers to use in ordering and assessing appropriate treatment.

67 The Invisible Havoc of Prenatal Alcohol Damage

Kathryn Page

Describing fetal alcohol spectrum disorders and the damage they cause, Dr. Page documents the child welfare system's response to these disorders and proposes practical approaches to addressing their effects.

91 The Santa Clara County Juvenile Domestic and Family Violence Court

Inger Sagatun-Edwards, Hon. Eugene M. Hyman, Tracy Lafontaine & Erin Nelson-Serrano

The authors describe and evaluate an innovative court-based program designed to address juvenile domestic and family violence. Drawing on a comparison of the records of youth in the program with those of a control group, the authors conclude that the program effectively reduces recidivism.

115 The Scope of Family Court Intervention

Steve Baron

A mediator argues that the family court was not designed to solve a family's problems, but changing statutory mandates and social realities require the court to intervene in the lives of families affected by substance abuse, child abuse, or domestic violence.

133 Promoting Permanency: Family Group Conferencing at the Manhattan Family Treatment Court

Robert Victor Wolf

Wolf presents an overview of the Manhattan Family Treatment Court's use of family group conferencing to speed permanency planning and parental sobriety.

149 Expected Controversies: Legacies of Divorce

Mary A. Duryee

The author reflects on controversies over Dr. Judith Wallerstein's work on the effects of divorce on children.

163 Don't Go to Court, Everybody Said

Russell Fuller

A father describes his painful experience fighting to maintain his relationship with his children after the dissolution of his marriage.

173 Ten Years in Family Law Court

Pamela Besser Theroux

A mother details the 10 years she spent in family court over custody and visitation issues.

ISSUES FORUM

PERSPECTIVES

Editor's Note

The Judicial Council of California is pleased to present Volume 4 of the *Journal of the Center for Families, Children & the Courts*. The Judicial Council and the

California courts are dedicated to improving the quality of justice and service to the people of California through informed efforts to promote equal access to the courts and equal ability to participate in court proceedings. These efforts have particular application to the family court, where many litigants represent themselves in matters in which their families'

Issues Facing Family Courts: Strategies that expand access to justice and fair outcomes in judicial proceedings for California's children and families

futures are at stake. The family courts, working together with court-connected professionals and the communities they serve, have been developing innovative, practical methods to increase access to

the family courts for self-represented litigants, adapt to today's changing family structure, and respond to the increasing awareness of the effects of substance abuse and domestic violence on families. Priorities include expanding the use of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) in family court, improving coordination of proceedings involving children and families, and coordinating social service provision with judicial proceedings.

To cover a broad spectrum of issues, the journal has gathered articles by judicial officers, attorneys, court personnel, mental health professionals, and academic researchers. The articles provide substantive background information and suggest strategies that expand access to justice and fair outcomes in judicial proceedings for California's children and families. Leading off, Mary Anderlik discusses the trend toward using DNA testing to disprove paternity and its consequences of disrupting parent-child relationships and triggering demands for relief from financial responsibility. After canvassing legal responses to this trend, Anderlik reviews important issues yet to be resolved. Megan Kirshbaum, Daniel Taube, and Rosalinda Baer describe the statutory, judicial, and professional barriers to family court access confronting parents with disabilities and recommend reforms to lower these barriers. Lyn Greenberg, Jonathan Gould, Judge Robert Schnider, Dianna Gould-Saltman, and David Martindale explore the proper role of mental health professionals providing treatment

to children and families involved in custody and visitation cases. Pointing out the pitfalls of inappropriate mental health practice, the authors provide a framework for judicial officers to use to order and assess appropriate treatment. Next, Kathryn Page describes fetal alcohol spectrum disorders and the severe damage they cause in the lives of their victims. She documents the child welfare system's response to these disorders and proposes approaches for addressing their effects. Inger Sagatun-Edwards, Judge Eugene Hyman, Tracy Lafontaine, and Erin Nelson-Serrano describe and evaluate an innovative court-based program designed to address juvenile domestic and family violence, concluding that the program is effective in reducing repeat offending. Steve Baron winds up the focus section with a look at the scope of the family court's intervention into families' lives. He argues that, though the family court was not designed to solve a family's problems, changing statutory requirements and social realities require the court to intervene more actively in the lives of at-risk families.

The second section of the journal is a forum for addressing important and timely issues relevant to children and families in the court system that fall outside the focus topic's scope. Here, Robert Victor Wolf of New York's Center for Court Innovation presents an overview of the Manhattan Family Treatment Court's use of family group conferencing to speed permanency planning and parental sobriety. Psychologist Mary Duryee then reflects on controversies among professionals over Dr. Judith Wallerstein's work on the effects of divorce on children.

The Perspectives section dissects two family dissolutions and illustrates the difficult issues that arise in cases with high conflict. Russell Fuller describes his painful experience fighting to maintain his relationship with his children after the dissolution of his marriage, and Pamela Besser Theroux details the 10 years she spent in family court over custody and visitation issues.

The journal's goal is to disseminate information and encourage scholarly discussion of issues concerning children and families in the California court system. Although focusing on issues of national importance, the journal encourages a dialogue for improving judicial policy in California. We hope that the journal continues to fulfill its mission as a useful information and research tool and provider of thought-provoking perspectives. We welcome comments and suggestions for improvement.

—Corby Sturges



Contributors

MARY R. ANDERLIK, J.D., PH.D., is an associate professor at the Institute for Bioethics, Health Policy and Law, University of Louisville School of Medicine. She received her J.D. from Yale Law School in 1989 and her Ph.D. from Rice University in 1997. Her research is currently focused in the area of genetics and ethics.

ROSALINDA LASIAN BAER is a custody analyst in the National Resource Center for Parents with Disabilities at Berkeley's Through the Looking Glass. She previously was an advocate for mental health patients' rights and a staff member of the Administrative Office of the Courts' Center for Judicial Education and Research. Her advocacy interests include the rights of parents with disabilities in child custody cases and mental health civil commitment and medication issues. Baer received her J.D. from the Santa Clara University School of Law.

STEVE BARON, M.A., a licensed marriage and family therapist, is director of Family Court Services in Santa Clara County, California, where he has worked for 21 years in the field of child custody and visitation mediation and investigation and supervises the Dependency Mediation Program. He was a primary contributor to the development of the California Uniform Standards of Practice for Court-Connected Child Protection/Dependency Mediation. Baron has taught for 16 years on the subjects of child abuse, domestic violence, and substance abuse as an adjunct faculty member of Santa Clara University. He is on the faculty of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

MARY A. DURYEE, PH.D., a psychologist and mediator in private practice in Oakland, has published numerous articles and has taught mediation and other family law-related topics. She currently teaches at the Administrative Office of the Courts' Center for Judicial Education and Research and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges in Reno. She consults with various county and state agencies concerned with providing services to families in the family law arena. She was director of Family Court Services in Alameda County for 12 years.

RUSSELL FULLER is a freelance writer who has published memoirs, articles, film and book reviews, and award-winning photographs. Raised and schooled on the East Coast, he moved to Northern California in 1968. Because a court decision allowed his ex-wife to move their young son and two daughters east in 1999, Russell recently moved to central New Jersey to live close to his kids.

JONATHAN W. GOULD, PH.D., is in private practice in Charlotte, North Carolina, and specializes in child custody and child abuse and maltreatment evaluations. He is author of *Conducting Scientifically Crafted Child Custody Evaluations* (Sage Publ'ns 1998) and co-author, with Allan E. Barsky, of *Clinicians in Court: A Guide to Subpoenas, Depositions, Testifying, and Everything Else You Need to Know* (Guilford Press 2002). Gould has authored some 20 articles on child custody evaluations and is presently completing a book with David Martindale on that subject.

DIANNA J. GOULD-SALTMAN is a principal in the Los Angeles firm of Gould-Saltman Law Offices, L.L.P., specializing in mediation and litigation of family law issues. Gould-Saltman is a certified family law specialist and a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. She currently serves as programs vice-president of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, Southern California Chapter, and vice-chair of the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association Family Law Section.

LYN R. GREENBERG, PH.D., specializes in work with children and families involved with the courts. She performs child custody evaluations and evaluations of alleged abuse, as well as provides specialized treatment for court-involved children and families. She has written and lectured both in California and nationally on forensic psychology, professional ethics, child custody evaluation, and court-related treatment. Her publications include “The Treating Expert: A Hybrid Role With Firm Boundaries,” co-authored with Jonathan W. Gould (32 *PROF. PSYCHOL.: RES. & PRAC.* 479 [2001]). Greenberg is a member of the Standing Subcommittee on Children’s Issues (Los Angeles Area) of the State Bar of California Family Law Section’s Executive Committee. She chairs the Forensic Committee of the Los Angeles County Psychological Association.

HON. EUGENE M. HYMAN is a judge in the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, where his legal interests have focused on delinquency and the related issues of substance abuse, mental health, and domestic violence. He has extensively lectured and written on these topics in Canada, Australia, and the United States. He received his J.D. in 1977 from the Santa Clara University School of Law and was in private practice until his appointment in 1990 to the Santa Clara County Municipal Court.

MEGAN KIRSHBAUM, PH.D., is executive director and founder of Berkeley’s Through the Looking Glass (TLG) and co-director and custody specialist of TLG’s National Resource Center for Parents with Disabilities. She also has been a family and infant-parent therapist in the disability community since 1974—work that grew out of her experience as a spouse and parent of people with disabilities. She developed TLG’s model intervention projects and has been principal investigator of most of its many studies regarding parents with disabilities and their children. Kirshbaum was the 1996 recipient of the Betts Award, the primary national award in the disability field.

TRACY LAFONTAINE, M.S., is a program manager with the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, assisting in the development and implementation of a new computerized case management system for the court. She holds an M.S. degree in criminal justice administration from San Jose State University. She previously was an analyst with the Administrative Office of the Courts, Center for Families, Children & the Courts, where she assisted in the programming and analysis of state-level data on contested child custody cases. Lafontaine also assisted in the overall program design, data collection, and statistical evaluation of the Santa Clara County Juvenile Domestic and Family Violence Court program.

Contributors, continued

DAVID A. MARTINDALE, PH.D., A.B.P.P., is a diplomate in forensic psychology, American Board of Professional Psychology. For 16 years he performed court-appointed evaluations of comparative custodial fitness in New York. He now is in private practice in New Jersey as a forensic psychological consultant to attorneys and psychologists. His work is concentrated in the areas of child custody, professional ethics, and malpractice. He regularly lectures on custody-related topics and has authored or co-authored numerous books and articles. Martindale is an adjunct clinical supervisor in the graduate program in psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice of The City University of New York and has taught graduate courses in ethical issues in forensic psychology there. He is also an adjunct clinical professor of psychiatry at the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

ERIN NELSON-SERRANO received her master's degree from San Jose State University. She presently works as a juvenile probation officer in Santa Cruz County.

KATHRYN PAGE, PH.D., chairs the Fetal Alcohol and Drug Spectrum Task Force in Santa Clara County and co-founded the FASD diagnostic clinic in that county's hospital. Through a joint project of the clinic and the Family Drug Treatment Court of the Superior Court of Santa Clara County, she is currently engaged in screening clients' children for signs of neurological impairment characteristic of fetal substance exposure. Page consults with agencies, families, and individuals affected by fetal alcohol damage and is in the process of forming another diagnostic clinic with targeted treatment for children with FASD. She is the adoptive mother of a 22-year-old with fetal alcohol damage.

INGER SAGATUN-EDWARDS, PH.D., has been chair of the Administration of Justice Department at San Jose State University since 1992. She received her M.A. in 1971 and her Ph.D. in 1972 from Stanford University. She has written more than 50 scholarly publications, primarily in the areas of child abuse, family violence, and juvenile justice, and is the co-author, with Leonard Edwards, of the book *Child Abuse and the Legal System* (Wadsworth Publ'g 1995). She is a past president of the Western Society of Criminology. In 1999, as a senior Fulbright scholar, she studied child abuse and family violence legislation in Norway and legal and social welfare responses to fetal drug exposure and parental child abductions.

HON. ROBERT ALAN SCHNIDER, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, received his J.D. from Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley, in 1970. A certified family law specialist, he was in private practice until his election as a commissioner in 1981. Elevated to superior court judge in 2002, he has served in the Family Law Department at the Central Civil (Mosk) Courthouse throughout his career on the bench. Judge Schnider has lectured and taught extensively and has received several awards, including the Judicial Officer of the Year Award in 1997 from the State Bar of California Family Law Section and Outstanding Jurist Award in 2000 from the Los Angeles County Bar Association.

DANIEL O. TAUBE, J.D., PH.D., is associate professor in the forensic family track at Alliant International University, California School of Professional Psychology, San Francisco Bay Area Campus. His interests include child protection, child custody, the rights of parents with disabilities, and law and ethics in mental health care. He is a consultant to the National Resource Center for Parents with Disabilities. Taube received his J.D. from Villanova University in 1985 and his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Hahnemann University in 1987 as a member of the Hahnemann/Villanova Joint Psychology and Law Graduate Program.

PAMELA BESSER THEROUX, born and raised in the Chicago area, has a bachelor of science degree from Southern Illinois University. After moving to California in 1975, she worked as an elementary school teacher and in the high-tech industry. In 1988 she began working on family law legislation with the Coalition for Family Equity in Los Angeles and testified at the Judicial Council's statewide gender bias hearings in 1988–1989. Since 1993 she has testified numerous times in Sacramento on family law legislation involving mediation, joint custody, and the right to relocate. In April 2002 she testified in support of Senator Sheila Kuehl's Senate Bill 1406, which would have made mediation uniform in the entire state. She has appeared on a number of television shows, including *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, and news broadcasts focusing on custody issues. She now works part time as a family law paralegal and continues to work on family law legislation in Sacramento. She is remarried with a 13-year-old daughter, Jordyn. Her son, Josh, is now 21 and a senior in college in Washington State.

ROBERT VICTOR WOLF is director of communications at the Center for Court Innovation, a public-private partnership that serves as the independent research and development arm of the New York State Unified Court System. Previously a reporter, a columnist, and an editor, Wolf has written numerous articles and white papers about the criminal justice system. His work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Justice System Journal*, *Judges' Journal*, and *Texas Journal of Corrections*. His article "Fixing Families: The Story of the Manhattan Family Treatment Court" appeared in the 2000 edition of the *Journal of the Center for Families, Children & the Courts*. A graduate of Columbia University, Wolf is also the author of two books for young adults, *Capital Punishment* (Chelsea House 1997) and *The Jury System* (Chelsea House 1999).

**ISSUES
FACING
FAMILY
COURTS**



